AGENDA ITEM
CA 6

Travel Approval Form

Department: District Clerk

Event Name: 27th Annual GCAT Conference

Location: League City, Texas

Event Dates: 09/15/2026

Purpose:

- ☐ Required Continuing Education/Certification
- ☑ Job Training
- ☐ Other: _____

Name of Attendees:

Bonnie Lain

Marya Garren

Will Keeton

Court Decision:
This section to be completed by County Judge's Office

Johnson County
APPROVED
Commissioners Court

7.27.2026

Required Documents Checklist:

✶✶ Same-Day Travel - Commissioners Court Approval is not required ✶✶

Overnight Travel

- ☑ Travel Approval Form
- ☑ Registration Information or Confirmation
- ☑ Itinerary, Agenda, or Breakdown
- ☑ Hotel Information, Confirmation, or Hotel Reservation Request Form

For Out of State Travel, please also include:

- ☐ Cost Estimation Breakdown for Trip with Airfare, Rental Car, Meals, Hotel, Etc.
- ☐ Narrative as to why the Out of State Travel is necessary

Signature of Elected Official/Department Head: Will F. Tatt

Approved in CC on 9/11/2023

27th Annual GCAT Collection Conference

Tuesday, September 15, 2026 – thru- Thursday, September 17, 2026

Educational Information about Texas Laws changing as government expands,
Liberty and Justice and Collecting Fees

Conference Registration Form

Deadline Date July 30,2026

____**$195.00 Member Fee** _____**$250.00 Non-Member Fee** _____**$ 750.00 Vendor Fee**

Name: Bonnie Lain **City or County Entities:** Johnson County District Clerk

Title or Position: Supervisor Collections **Address:** 204 S Buffalo **City:** Cleburne

State: Tx **Zip Code:** 76033 **EMAIL ADDRESS:** Blain@johnsoncountytx.org

Late fees for Registration, $25.00 must be paid before attending conference. NO refunds are given 30 days prior to Conference date. Make Checks payable to GCAT PO Box 171, Bryan, Texas 77806 For more Information please go to www.govcat.net call a board member or Tanya Skinner at (979)-361-4297 also her email is tskinner@brazoscountytx.gov.

2025/2026-GCAT Membership Application and Renewal Form

The Governmental Collectors Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of collection administrations in Cities, Counties and State Government. In carrying out its purpose GCAT will strive to provide membership with professional collection and management education yearly and encourage networking to provide an exchange of useful information.

Eligibility: Any Judge, clerk or person employed by and/or responsible for Collection of Revenue due to a governmental entity.

Individual Membership to join GCAT $150.00 _____
Annual Membership Renewal Fee for GCAT $50.00 _____

To join the GCAT association please fill out the form below and email or mail the form along with your Payment to the following address please. GCAT, PO Box 171, Bryan, Tx 77806, for more information email the Current President, Tanya Skinner at tskinner@brazoscountytx.gov

Full Name:
Bonnie Lain

Government Entity:
Johnson County

Name of Office Employed:
District Clerk

Mailing Address:
204 S Buffalo

City: Cleburne **State:** Tx **Zip Code:** 76033

Email Address: Blain@johnsoncountytx.org

Office Phone :(817) 202 4040 1169 **Fax Number:** (___) _____

I, the undersigned, do hereby make this application for membership into the Governmental Collectors Association of Texas.

Bonnie Lain

Applicant's Signature Date

Amount Enclosed: $_____

Make all checks payable to:

GCAT, P.O.BOX 171, Bryan, Texas 77806

Visit us online at www.govecat.net

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Deadline Date July 30,2026

X **$195.00 Member Fee** _____**$250.00 Non-Member Fee** _____**$ 750.00 Vendor Fee**

Name: Marya Garren **City or County Entities:** Johnson County District Clerk

Title or Position: CFO **Address:** 2015. Buffalo **City:** Cleburne, TX

State: Texas **Zip Code:** 76033 **EMAIL ADDRESS:** mgarren@jocotx.org

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X **$195.00 Member Fee** _____ **$250.00 Non-Member Fee** _____ **$ 750.00 Vendor Fee**

Name: Will Keeton **City or County Entities:** Johnson County District Clerk

Title or Position: District Clerk **Address:** 204 S. Buffalo **City:** Cleburne

State: Texas **Zip Code:** 76033 **EMAIL ADDRESS:** wfkeeton@jocotx.org

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LAUNCH Court Collections Out of This World with

GCAT

27th Annual GCAT Conference
League City, Texas

September 15,16,17,2026

Monday , September 14,2026	**Topic for Classes**	**Rooms for meetings**
GCAT Board of Directors annual meeting		6:30pm

Tuesday, September 15,2026	**Topic for Classes**	**Rooms for Meeting**
9:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	Registration	Hotel Lobby area
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Lunch on your own	
1:00 p.m.	Welcoming to the Conference/Information	Salon AB
1:15 p.m.	Vendor Introductions	Salon C
1:30 p.m-3:00 pm	Motivational Speaker Brandi Ray	Salon AB
3:00 pm-3:30pm	Break Snacks & Beverages	Salon C
3:30-pm -4:30 pm	**Thea Whalen** Executive Director of Texas Judicial Center	
5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Meet & Greet Black Light Bingo Finger Foods & Beverages	Lobby front desk area

Wednesday, September 16,2026	**Topic for Classes**	**Rooms for Meetings**
9:00 am	Welcoming Back	Salon AB
9:00 am -9:15 am	Vendor Giveaways	Salon AB
9:15 am-9:30 am	Annual Membership Meeting (Elections)	Salon AB
9:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Leadership Judge Laura Weiser	Salon AB
10:45 am-11:00 am	**Morning Break** Snacks & Beverages	**Salon C**
11:00 a.m.-12:00p.m.	Bastrop County Procedures	Salon AB
12: 00 p.m.- 1:45 p.m.	Luncheon/Awards In Memory of Jim Lehman	Salon EF

2:00 p.m.- 3:30 p.m.	Mental Health & First Aid Angela Bates	Salon AB
3:30p.m.-4:00 p.m.	Afternoon Break Snacks & Beverages	Salon C
4:00 pm-5:00 pm	Municipal Court Process Judge Edward Spillane	Salon AB

Dismissed for the night on your own.

Thursday, September 17,2026 Topic for Classes Classrooms for Meetings

8:30 am -9:30am	TAC FIND A Way Ashley Whitfield-Wellness Supervisor	Salon AB
9:30 am- 9:45 am	Short Break	
9:45 am-10:45 am	TDCJ Collections Terry Lyle – Kerr County	
11:00 am	Dismissal of the Conference	



Newsletter for June 2025
Launching court collections out of this world
With GCAT

Register for the Conference please as soon as possible. I need the registration paperwork as soon as possible, just put that the payment will come later and that is good with me. **tskinner@brazoscountytx.gov,** We must book with the hotel for meals, snacks etc. by July 30,2026. Same cut off date as the conference dues are due. Registration information can be found here https://gcatexas.org/events.asp

Conference Fees: There will be a deadline for the Conference registration payments. If you have not paid by July 30,2026, there will be a $25.00 late fee per person. Conference fees for Members will be $195.00 per person, and non-members will be $250.00 per person.

Hotel Information: South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center,2500 South Shore Blvd. League City, Texas 77573 Phone: 1-281-334-1000 and the room rate $139.00
cut off date with reservations is August 16,2026.

Speakers Information: Brandi Ray, Thea Whalen, Judge Laura Weiser, Bastrop Collections Department, Judge Edward Spillane, Terry Lyle and Angela Bates. We may still add a few more this year I hope is one of the Best yet to come.

Awards – The GCAT award nominations are due for this year's awards by July 15th to the following emails. Submit the nominations to **Sheryl Keel at skeel@smith-county.com** or Amanda Levoy at **alevoy@smith-county.com** no later than 12:00 noon on July 15. Award information can be found here https://gcatexas.org/awards.asp Winners will be announced at the Annual Conference in September.

GCAT Board will be hosting a Black Light Bingo with lots of prizes to win.

Continue to check the website for conference updates at gcatexas.org!